Attn: U.S. Food & Biring Clam,

of urge you to grant our

petition to perohibit the plaughter

of downed animals-docket

98 p-015//CPI.

Please let me know the action you took.

Streety Ellen J Calnan

Letters to FDA Urgently Needed!

Letters are urgently needed to end the downed animal trade. Please write to the Food and Drug Administration's Dockets Management Branch to urge that they grant our petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals—docket number 98P-0151/CP1. It is critical that you include the docket number in your comment.

Contact:

U.S. Food and Drug Administration Dockets Management Branch 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20785

Fax: 301-827-6870



Some points to make include:

- Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.
- In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).
- It is practically impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains—inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.
- Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.
- Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Fall 2000 / FARM SANCTUARY NEWS

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C.S. Tord & Calministration

Dockete management Branch

5600 Liehere hane Room 1061

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